

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-93 (canceled)

Claim 94 (previously presented): A process for the preparation of an epothilone selected from epothilone A or epothilone B, which comprises

(a) preparing a recombinant host by introducing into a host cell a group of nucleotide fragments that code for epothilone synthase proteins, which group of nucleotide fragments comprises an epoA nucleotide fragment, an epoP nucleotide fragment, an epoB nucleotide fragment, an epoC nucleotide fragment, an epoD nucleotide fragment, an epoE nucleotide fragment, and an epoF nucleotide fragment such that each nucleotide fragment is operatively linked to a promoter sequence; wherein

- (i) the complement of the epoA nucleotide fragment hybridizes to nucleotides 7610-11875 of SEQ ID NO:1;
- (ii) the complement of the epo P nucleotide fragment hybridizes to nucleotides 11872-16104 of SEQ ID NO:1
- (iii) the complement of the epoB nucleotide fragment hybridizes to nucleotides 16251-21749 of SEQ ID NO:1;
- (iv) the complement of the epoC nucleotide fragment hybridizes to nucleotides 21746-43519 of SEQ ID NO:1;
- (v) the complement of the epoD nucleotide fragment hybridizes to nucleotides 43524-54920 of SEQ ID NO:1;
- (vi) the complement of the epoE nucleotide fragment hybridizes to nucleotides 54935-62254 of SEQ ID NO:1;
- (vii) the complement of the epoF nucleotide fragment hybridizes to nucleotides 62369-63628 of SEQ ID NO:1;

wherein the conditions of hybridization are at 65°C for 36 hours and washing 3 times at high stringency with 0.1x SSC and 0.5% SDS for 20 minutes at 65°C;

- (b) growing the recombinant host under conditions that allow biosynthesis of the epothilone, in the recombinant host; and
- (c) isolating the epothilone.

Claim 95 (original): A process of claim 94 wherein each nucleotide fragment is linked to the same promoter sequence.

Claim 96 (original): A process of claim 94 wherein the recombinant host is a heterologous host.

Claim 97 (original): A process of claim 94 wherein the promoter is heterologous.

Claim 98 (original): A process of claim 96 wherein the recombinant host is a member of the genus *Streptomyces*.

Claim 99 (original): A process of claim 94 wherein a gene for a phosphopantetheinyl transferase is also introduced into the host.

Claim 100 (original): A process of claim 99 wherein the recombinant host is *E. coli*.

Claim 101 (original): A process of claim 94 wherein the recombinant host is grown in the presence of a cyclodextrin.

Claim 102 (currently amended): A process of claim 99-101 wherein the cyclodextrin is 2-(hydroxypropyl)-beta-cyclodextrin.

Claim 103 (original): (original) A process of claim 94 wherein the epothilone is epothilone B.